

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 10/086,432

Our Ref.: 068741
Art Unit: 2652

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's claim to foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d), and for confirming that the certified copy of the priority document has been received at the Patent Office.

Information Disclosure Statement:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for initialing and returning Form PTO/SB/08 A & B filed on September 11, 2003, thus indicating that all of the references listed thereon have been considered.

Election/Restriction:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging Applicant's election of claims 13-15 without traverse.

Claim Rejections:

Claims 13-15 are all of the claims that have been examined in the present application, and currently all of these claims stand rejected.

Applicant has cancelled these claims without prejudice or disclaimer, and has added new claims 20-25.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection - Claims 13-15:

Claims 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,901,017 to Sano et al. In view of the following discussion, Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejection.

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Sano discloses a wire 7 which is connected to a magnetic head slider 4 at one end, where a portion of the wire 7 is held by the tabs 2a and another portion of the wire is held by the tabs 3a. The tabs 2a hold the portion of the wire 7 at an angle with respect to the portion held by the tabs 3a. See Figure 7.

However, there is no disclosure within Sano of having the wire 7 a lead wire connected to a circuit board, where the lead wire is used for at least one of supplying electric power and transmitting a signal to the circuit board. See claim 20. It is only disclosed that the wire is connected to the magnetic head slider 4. Thus, Sano fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention.

Further, the wire 7, in Sano, is a typical round wire or conductor. It is known that conductors such as these can have their directions easily changed because of the symmetrical shape of the conductor. However, Sano fails to disclose a fastening structure, such as that set forth in the claims, where the structure has two fastening mechanisms to change the direction of a flat conductor. As shown in the exemplary, non-limiting embodiment represented in Figures 4 and 5, the conductors of the present invention are flat. The changing of the direction of conductors such as these is more difficult than of the wire 7. As such, the claimed structure of the present invention is novel in view of Sano, and Sano fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Sano fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention, as set forth in claims 20-25. Therefore, Sano fails to anticipate the claimed invention, as required under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Accordingly,

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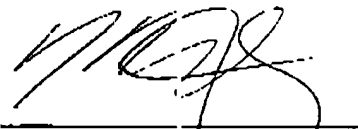
Applicant hereby requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of original claims 13-15 and allow the new claims 20-25, over the Sano reference, for the reasons set forth above.

Conclusion:

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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